Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving from a user an input selecting a layer in an electronic artwork having a plurality
of layers, each layer including image data, the image data of the selected layer including opacity
data;

using the opacity data of the selected layer to identify one or more non-transparent
regions;

calculating a perimeter boundary of the one or more non-transparent regions;

using the perimeter boundary to define an area in the selected layer;

assigning an action to the area, the action defining a function that is to be activated when
the area is selected; and

associating the area and the action with the selected layer as a property of the selected
layer in the electronic image artwork.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the action is a URL (Uniform Resource Locator).

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of layers
include compositing controls and the method further comprises:

compositing the plurality of layers of the artwork by combining the plurality of layers in
accordance to produce a final image; and

converting the area and the action to a target output format.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein:

the target output format is HTML (HyperText Markup Language).

5. (Previously Presented) A computer program, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

receive an electronic artwork having a plurality of layers, each layer including image data;

receive from a user an input selecting one of the plurality of layers, the image data of the selected layer including opacity data;

use the opacity data to identify one or more non-transparent regions in the image data;

calculate a perimeter boundary of the one or more non-transparent regions;

use the perimeter boundary to define an area in the selected layer; and

assign an action to the area, the action defining a function to be activated when the area is selected.

6. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, further comprising instructions to:

automatically fit a shape to the perimeter boundary, wherein the shape defines the area.

7. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein the plurality of layers include compositing controls and the program further comprises instructions to:

composite the artwork by combining the plurality of layers to produce a final image; and

convert the area and the action to a target output format.

8. (Original) The computer program of claim 7, wherein the target output format for the area and the action is HTML.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 8, further comprising instructions to:

write out the final image as an image file and write out an HTML file containing an image map for the area and a URL for the action, the HTML file referring to the image file.

10-11. (Cancelled)

12.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

re-defining the area automatically if the content of the selected layer of the electronic artwork is edited, the re-defined area conforming to a new perimeter boundary of the one or more non-transparent regions.

13.   (Previously Presented) In a graphics application that supports dynamic content in layers, the method of claim 3, further comprising:

calculating any dynamic content for the selected layer when the layer is composited; and

using the calculated dynamic content to calculate the perimeter boundary and define the area.

14.   (Cancelled)

15.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

the image data in the selected layer has two or more non-contiguous non-transparent regions; and

the two or more non-contiguous non-transparent regions in combination are used to calculate the perimeter boundary.

16.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

generating multiple image maps from the non-transparent regions.

17-19. (Cancelled)

20.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

associate the area and the action with the selected layer as a property of the selected layer.

21.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 20, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

re-define the area automatically if the content of the selected layer of the electronic artwork is edited, the re-defined area conforming to a new perimeter boundary of the one or more non-transparent regions.

22.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 7, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

calculate any dynamic content for the selected layer when the layer is composited; and

use the calculated dynamic content to calculate the boundary and define the area.

23.   (Cancelled)

24.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein:

the image data in the selected layer has two or more non-contiguous non-transparent regions; and

the two or more non-contiguous non-transparent regions in combination are used to calculate the perimeter boundary.

25.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 24, further comprising instructions for causing a computer to:

generate multiple image maps from the non-transparent regions.

26-27. (Cancelled)

28.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein:

defining the area further comprises automatically fitting a shape to the perimeter boundary, wherein the shape defines the area.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

outputting the final image as an image file; and

outputting an HTML file including an image map for the area and a URL for the action.

30.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein the action is a URL (Uniform Resource Locator).

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising:
receiving user input selecting the shape.

32.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the shape is a circle.

33.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the shape is a rectangle.

34.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, wherein the shape is a polygon.

35.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the perimeter boundary is for the one or more non-transparent regions in combination.

36.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein there are one or more holes within the one or more non-transparent regions; and
wherein the holes are ignored in calculating the perimeter boundary.

37.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein there are one or more holes within the one or more non-transparent regions; and

each non-transparent region that has a hole is separated into separate non-transparent regions that do not contain holes; and

the perimeter boundary is calculated from the separate hole-free non-transparent regions.

38.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 6, further comprising instructions to:

receive user input selecting the shape.

39.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the shape is a circle.

40.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the shape is a rectangle.

41.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 38, wherein the shape is a polygon.

42.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein the boundary is for the one or more non-transparent regions in combination.

43.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein there are one or more holes within the one or more non-transparent regions; and

wherein the holes are ignored in calculating the perimeter boundary.

44.   (Previously Presented) The computer program of claim 5, wherein there are one or more holes within the one or more non-transparent regions; and

each non-transparent region that has a hole is separated into separate non-transparent regions that do not contain holes; and

the perimeter boundary is calculated from the separate hole-free non-transparent regions.

45-46. (Cancelled)